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Agenda item 7

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CONFERENCE AND OTHER DECISIONS AND CONCLUSIONS REQUIRING ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Organization to house the Global Mechanism and agreement on its modalities

Draft decision proposed by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling that the Conference of the Parties (COP), in accordance with article 21, paragraphs 5 and 6, of the Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, shall:

(a) identify, at its first ordinary session an organization to house the Global Mechanism established under article 21, paragraph 4, of the Convention;

(b) agree with the organization it has identified upon the modalities for the Global Mechanism; and

(c) make, at its first session, appropriate arrangements with the organization it has identified to house the Global Mechanism for the administrative operations of such Mechanism, drawing to the extent possible on existing budgetary and human resources,

Having examined the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or

Desertification, Particularly in Africa (INCD) regarding the functions of the Global Mechanism, and the criteria for selecting an institution to house it, as reflected in Appendix I of document ICCD/COP(1)/5 and in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Committee's decision 10/3, taken at the first part of its tenth session, with the amendment contained in document ICCD/COP(1)/5/Add.1,

Recalling decision 10/18 of the INCD, taken at its resumed tenth session, which, inter alia:

(a) requests the COP at its first session to consider the offers of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), including any suggestions they deem necessary, and to take appropriate action on the matters related to the selection of an institution to house the Global Mechanism; and

(b) requests the secretariat, in consultation with IFAD and UNDP, to develop proposals on administrative and operational modalities of the Global Mechanism for consideration and adoption by the COP at its first session,

Noting with appreciation the revised offer of IFAD to house the Global Mechanism, contained in Appendix II of document ICCD/COP(1)/5, as supplemented by document ICCD/COP(1)/CRP.3, prepared in response to operative paragraph 1 of INCD decision 10/18,

Also noting with appreciation the revised offer of UNDP to house the Global Mechanism, contained in Appendix III of document ICCD/COP(1)/5, as supplemented by document ICCD/COP(1)/CRP.2, prepared in response to operative paragraph 1 of INCD decision 10/18,

Noting further document ICCD/COP(1)/5/Add.2/Rev.1, which contains proposals developed by the secretariat, in consultation with IFAD and UNDP regarding the administrative and operational modalities of the Global Mechanism,

1. Decides to select [IFAD] [UNDP] to house the Global Mechanism on the basis of criteria agreed on in Section B of the Annex to INCD decision 10/3;

2. Decides also that the Global Mechanism, in carrying out its mandate, under the authority and guidance of the COP, should perform the functions described in the annex to this decision;

3. Requests the secretariat, in consultation with the organization to house the Global Mechanism, as well as the other two collaborating institutions referred to in decision ..., to develop a memorandum of understanding between the COP and appropriate body or organization for consideration and adoption at the second session of the COP;

4. Requests also the secretariat and the organization housing the Global Mechanism, in consultation with the two other collaborating institutions, in developing the memorandum of understanding referred to in paragraph 3 above, to take fully into account document ICCD/COP(1)/5 and other related documents, including document ICCD/COP(1)/CRP.1, to address, inter alia, the following:

(a) the separate identity of the Global Mechanism within the housing organization;

(b) the measures to be taken to assure full accountability and full reporting to the COP;

(c) the field office support available for Global Mechanism activities;

(d) the administrative infrastructure available to support the Global Mechanism; and

(e) arrangements for the handling of resources made available for Global Mechanism functioning and activities;

5. Further requests the organization housing the Global Mechanism and the secretariat to work out appropriate arrangements for liaison and cooperation between the secretariat and the Global Mechanism in order to avoid duplication and to enhance the effectiveness of Convention implementation in accordance with their respective roles in implementation;

6. Invites relevant institutions, programmes and bodies of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Food Programme (WFP), intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations and regional development banks, as well as interested non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector, to actively support the activities of the Global Mechanism;

7. Urges Governments and all interested organizations, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to make promptly the voluntary contributions necessary to ensure that the Global Mechanism can begin operating on 1 January 1998 on the basis of Section A of Appendix I of document ICCD/COP(1)/5 and continue effective operations on the basis of the memorandum of understanding referred to in paragraph 3 above after its adoption by the second session of the COP;

8. Reiterates that, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 7 of the Convention, the COP shall, at its third ordinary session, review the policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism and, on the basis of this review, shall consider and take appropriate action.